THE PULSE

NEWS OF THE NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL

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NEW ENGLAND DEACONESS HOSPITAL
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A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Christmas is with us again, bringing us joys without number as well as anxieties, worries and the extra care and work which modern society imposes. Christmas should be simple, beautiful. Strong is the man or woman who can stand against the commercial tide of salesmanship and display which sweeps upon us at this season.

There is a prayer of Louis Stevenson's which always seems appropriate at this time. It is called a *Family Prayer.*

"Lord, behold our family here assembled. We thank Thee for this place in which we dwell; for the love that unites us; for the peace of this day; for the hope with which we expect the morrow; for the health, the work, the food, the bright skies that make our lives delightful; for our friends in all parts of the earth. Give us grace and strength to forbear and preserve . . . Give us courage and gaiety and the quiet mind. Spare to us our friends, soften to us our enemies. Bless us, if it may be, in all our innocent endeavors. If not give us strength to bear that which is to come, that we be brave in peril, constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune, even down to the gates of death, loyal and loving to one another."

WARREN F. COOK,
Executive Director

SERVICE AWARDS

Service pin awards this year were made at the annual Christmas Party on December eighteenth to the following people:

Thirty Years

Ella Needham	Record Room
Herbert C. Robinson	Maintenance
Patrick Sullivan	Grounds

Twenty-five Years

Henry Flynn	Engineering
Eva Gifford	Housekeeping
Esther L. Prince	Administrative Services
Donald L. Sabine	Engineering and Maintenance

Twenty Years

Gertrude S. Jameson	Social Service
John P. Keefe	Purchasing
Agnes Kennedy	Administrative Services
Bertina Terkelsen	Administration

Fifteen Years

May Feyler	Laundry

Ten Years

Sigrid E. Hellmer	Admitting
Irja I. Hill	Nursing
Annie M. May	Record Room
Charles F. Schraub	Pharmacy
Margaret Walters	Nursing
Anna L. White	Purchasing

Five Years

Peter Athas	Housekeeping
Petronella Blanche	Dietary
Hilda Callahan	Central Supply
Conrad P. Casto	Pharmacy
Janie Christie	School of Nursing
Dorothy A. Convey	Surgery
Mary C. Egar	Chemistry
Augusta E. Evans	Dietary
Edward P. Garbati	Administrative Services
Margaret Healey	Dietary
Samuel P. Hicks, M.D.	Pathology
Ethel H. Hickson	Nursing
Marjorie M. LeBeau	Dietary
Elizabeth McComiskey	Cancer Research Institute
Ethel I. McConachie	Nursing
Jeanette C. Miller	Nursing
Anna B. Mullen	Dietary
Irene M. Pitts	Nursing
Joan Randle	School of Nursing
John Reedshaw	Housekeeping
Maggie J. K. Reedshaw	Housekeeping
Isabelle H. Riordan	Dietary
Rita Shay	Surgery
Ethel I. Silva	Nursing
Catherine Stewart	Nursing
Mary M. Sullivan	Dietary
Ethel J. Thomas	Surgery
Margery S. Thorndike	School of Nursing
Edith O. Wetterlow	Nursing
Marion J. Whitney	Nursing
Murray G. Wilson	Maintenance

Also to be congratulated for their years of service with the New England Deaconess Hospital and who have already received specific awards are the following:

Over Forty Years

Orianna F. Harding	Administration

Over Thirty Years

Ada W. Hamlyn	Nursing
Howard Lewis	Engineering
Ruth A. Sherman	Out-Patient

Twenty-five to Thirty Years

John Bonner	Engineering
Rita M. Dennehy	Laundry
Shields Warren, M.D.	Pathology
Nora M. Webb	Dietary
Eva M. Witham	Pathology

Twenty to Twenty-five Years

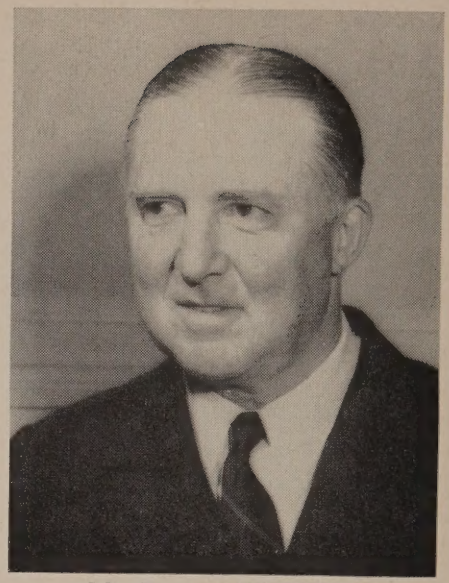
Frederick W. Cheney	Dietary
Mary E. Connolly	Laundry
Warren F. Cook	Executive Director
Russell F. Cowing	Cancer Research Institute
Felix Galasti	Maintenance
Catherine Grady	Dietary
Kathleen M. Halloran	Nursing
Jessie Kennedy	Administrative Services
Helen J. Murray	Housekeeping
Isabel Smith	Dietary
Natalie V. Tompkins	Central Supply
Joseph F. Warren	Pathology
Catherine V. Waters	Administrative Services

WINTER REMINDER

How much snow will there be this winter? Nobody knows — but it is always a problem in the parking lot. We wish to warn all unauthorized parkers that cars which hamper removal of snow from the parking lot will be towed away at the car owner's expense.

? WHITE ELEPHANT ?

If you have a piano which you want to discard, the Deaconess will have plenty of use for it in its Joslin Auditorium. Please contact the Public Relations Department.



MR. FRANCIS W. CAPPER

RECENT ELECTION

Mr. Francis W. Capper, Vice-President of the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, was recently elected Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the New England Deaconess Hospital. Mr. Capper has been Treasurer of the Hospital since 1933. He succeeds Mr. Stanley O. MacMullen who resigned from his position several months ago.

MISS MAHER RETIRES

Miss Maude B. Maher retired on September 15 from her position as Radium Nurse. Miss Maher served the New England Deaconess Hospital for almost 25 years. It was with sincere regret that her resignation was accepted.

Miss Maher has countless friends — all of whom wish her well. A small luncheon was held for her as a testimonial and a purse presented to her.

Miss Maher's kindness to her patients and devotion to duty will always be remembered. She was truly inspired in her service. As a pension was arranged for Miss Maher, she is still connected with the hospital and remains a member of the family.

We should like to print the following letter received from Miss Maher:

"To my friends and fellow workers at Deaconess Hospital — I wish to extend my sincere thanks to all of you for the very generous gift presented to me by Dr. Cook on the day of my retirement from Deaconess. My association with the hospital and all my fellow workers will always remain a very happy memory. Sincerely, Maude B. Maher."

SUCCESSFUL BAZAAR

As a result of the Bazaar held on December second by the Friends of the Deaconess, nurses, and students, the X-ray machine fund is $771.35 richer. Congratulations!

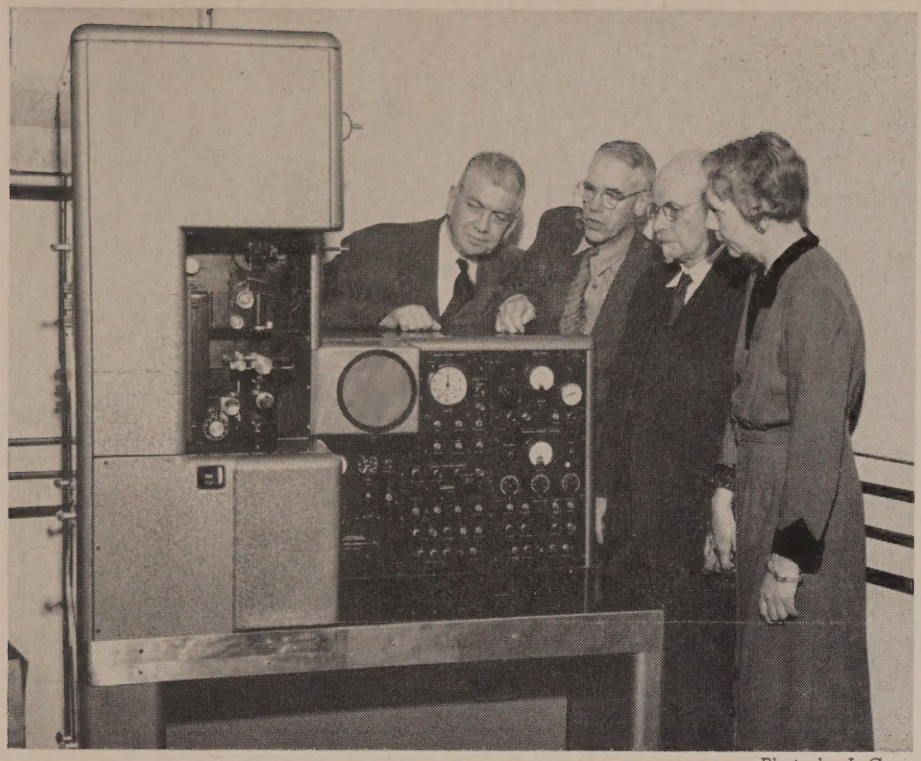


Photo by J. Coyne

INSTALLATION OF POLAROIDSCOPE — NOVEMBER 25, 1953

Left to right: Dr. Clarence L. Scamman, medical director, American Cancer Society; Dr. Shields Warren; Prof. Edwin B. Wilson of the Office of Naval Research; and Mrs. Lettie G. Billings, administrative assistant to Dr. Edwin Land, president of Polaroid Corporation.

ULTRA-VIOLET MICROSCOPE

On November 25 an event occurred of major importance for the New England Deaconess Hospital — the transferral of the Polaroid Corporation's only ultra-violet microscope to the Cancer Research Institute. This microscope and its use is of nation-wide interest. As so excellent an article was written by Frances Burns of *The Boston Daily Globe* about the microscope, it is with pleasure that we reprint it.

"A new ultra-violet microscope, which may open the human body to understanding the way Galileo's telescope revealed the heavens, was transferred yesterday to the Cancer Research Institute of the New England Deaconess Hospital from the Polaroid Corporation in Cambridge.

"First and only instrument of its kind, it traveled across the river under police guard. It cost more than $500,000 to produce and has been loaned to the Cancer Research Institute by the Office of Naval Research.

"Known as the 'Monster' to workers at Polaroid and 'UV-scope' at Deaconess, the apparatus was invented and developed by Dr. Edwin H. Land, president of Polaroid under contract with the American Cancer Society and the Office of Naval Research.

"Pilgrim Road was shut off from traffic for more than an hour while the machine was being unloaded, and the hospital had to take off the door frame to get it into its new ground floor, air-cleaned, air conditioned home in the Institute opposite the main hospital.

"Present to receive it officially were Dr. Warren F. Cook, executive director of the hospital, and Dr. Shields Warren, director of the Cancer Institute, in the presence of Prof. Edwin B. Wilson and Dr. Carl F. Muckenhoupt of the Office of Naval Research; Dr. Clarence L. Scamman, medical director of the American Cancer Society in Boston; Miriam Swaffield, who had been carrying on comparative studies with normal and cancer cells under the microscope, and Mrs. L. G. Billings, administrative assistant to the corporation.

Exceeded Expectations

" 'Completed two years ago, the UV-scope already has gone beyond its early promise in revealing secrets of the human body,' Dr. Warren said.

" 'Of all the problems investigated thus far,' Mrs. Swaffield commented, 'every one had come up with something really significant.'

" 'If anyone had asked Galileo what he could see with his telescope he would have said some moons of Jupiter,' Prof. Wilson said, 'yet many things have happened as the result of his invention since then. We think it is the same way with this new microscope. We've seen nothing yet of what it's likely to reveal.'

"The microscope uses ultra-violet light, passed through a system of lenses of the reflecting type. Although invisible to the human eye, the light is recorded on photographic film and translated by a special portion of the apparatus into a colored and magnified picture of the living cell. The chemical components of the cell absorb specific wave lengths of ultra-violet light, and changes brought about in the cell show up on the screen in an assortment of colors.

" 'We can take enough pictures in a morning to keep a staff busy for three weeks interpreting them,' Dr. Warren explained.

Solves Problems Quickly

"The machine has been used by Cancer Institute scientists while it was housed in Cambridge. One problem on which Dr. Sheldon Sommers had been working for four years was solved by the 'monster' in one hour, Dr. Warren pointed out. The magic eye of the microscope revealed changes in small holes in the nucleii of the lymphoid cells of the circulating blood that proved that the harmful effects of radiation begin more rapidly than had hitherto been apparent. Similar changes in liver cells, ordinarily quite resistant, were shown by the microscope and proved that whole body radiation may cause mal function of the liver, which has to do with the manufacture of blood plasma.

" 'We thus have learned,' Dr. Warren said, 'that in some cases we must weigh carefully whether the benefit of massive X-ray treatment will offset the harm to the liver.'

"Among the other problems settled thus far by the new instrument is the use of certain blood expanders as substitutes for human blood transfusions. Thus it was proved that a substance known as PVP was not absorbed at all when used in transfusions, and thus is not useful as an expander. Planned for the near future is work to determine how radiation affects the bone marrow where the blood cells are formed.

"By color translation it has already been possible to differentiate apparently similar changes that take place in the kidney cells into three separate disease patterns, Bright's Disease, diabetes and hardening of the arteries. Dr. Warren explained that this evidence turned up by Dr. Sommers will be invaluable in future diagnosis of kidney disfunction.

"The microscope will be available to scientists of other institutions in the greater Boston area. Several copies of the apparatus are being manufactured now and are to be distributed over the country by such institutions as the American Cancer Society and the Office of Naval Research."

WORK SIMPLIFICATION

Anyone passing the conference room lately may have noticed that in addition to its bright yellow chairs it now boasts a very large blackboard. And if you had happened to drop in there on a recent Tuesday or Thursday afternoon, you would have found the blackboard being put to good use by groups of department heads — listing questions, drawing charts, making notes. What has all this activity been about? They have been discussing WORK SIMPLIFICATION.

Some of you may already have heard of work simplification. Now we would like you all to hear of it and to know what has been discussed in those weekly meetings around the blackboard. Work Simplification means just what it says — simplifying work. Unfortunately, we don't always do our jobs in the easiest way possible — we do it in the way we have always seen it done. But if there is a simpler way to perform our tasks, why shouldn't we use it? And that is our hope and aim. We would like to see every employee in the hospital doing his job in the easiest possible way. This means, of course, that every one of us must take a good look at the job we are now doing, think about it carefully, and see whether or not we can suggest any improvements. Only the person actually working on the job is familiar enough with it to see the possibilities for change and improvement.

Why do we want to do this? We at the New England Deaconess Hospital have always been proud of the service and care we have given to our patients. We are proud of it, but we are not complacent about it. If we can simplify our work, if we can eliminate the unnecessary or wasteful parts of our jobs, we will have much more time and energy to devote to still further improving our service to patients.

We hope that this is an idea that will appeal to you. We want to give every employee a chance to meet with others of his co-workers to discuss and share ideas about how his job can be simplified. It would seem wise to keep these groups small in number in order to give everyone a chance to express his or her opinion, and for this reason it may be some months before every employee can be consulted. Your turn will come; but, if in the meantime you have any ideas that would make your job simpler or easier, tell your supervisor about it. We are all anxious to put into effect any suggestion that means work simplification.

HEATHER M. STYKOLT,
Training Supervisor

SERVICE CORPS

On November 30 a new central messenger pool, known as the Service Corps, started at the New England Deaconess Hospital. The Corps will become eventually the transportation agency for the entire Hospital. We are starting on a small scale but hope we shall be able to increase our service.

The main objective of the Service Corps is to relieve all personnel assigned to patient floors — Nurses, Aides, and Yellow Girls — from the necessity of having to leave the floors to do errands on Monday through Saturday from 8:30 A. M. to 6:00 P. M. In addition to serving on patient floors, the Service Corps will also perform errands in all areas of the hospital where messenger service is needed during the above mentioned times.

To accomplish this, we are instituting the following system:

A. NURSING STATIONS — Every hour, beginning at 8:30 A. M. and ending at 4:30 P. M., a messenger will make the rounds of all Nursing Stations — leaving requisitions at the Pharmacy every hour and at the beginning of each round will pick up any special requisition medications which are ready at that time. The messenger will deliver *all* incoming material to the floor and pick up *all* outgoing material. This will include medications, requisitions to all departments, specimens for the labs, small pieces of equipment and articles for repair, and, in general, all in- and out-going mail to and from all floors.

B. CENTRAL SUPPLY ROOM — Starting at 8:30 A. M., a messenger will visit each Nursing Station to pick up the unsterile cart for Central Supply. Within fifteen minutes the sterile cart from Central Supply will be returned. All floors will be serviced between 8:30 and 10:30 A. M. Starting at 3:00 P. M. a messenger will make the same rounds for carts for Central Supply, returning to each floor with the sterile cart.

C. PATIENTS' ESCORTS — Messengers will escort patients to Diabetic Classes, the Chemical Laboratory for blood sugars and E. K. G.'s, the Photoroentgen Room and X-ray Department, and to any other departments which would require the assistance of someone from the floor. Phone Ext. 236 or 237 and ask for a messenger, stating the name of the patient and where he is to be escorted.

D. ADMITTING AND DISCHARGING PATIENTS — The Admitting Office will also phone for a messenger to escort the patient to his floor. The Head Nurse or Floor Secretary will phone the desk for a messenger to accompany a discharged patient to the lobby.

E. FLOWERS AND TELEGRAMS — Messengers will deliver flowers and telegrams to the floors and leave them at the secretary's desk.

F. SPECIAL ERRANDS — In addition to the service outlined above, messengers will be available at the Service Desk, located in the Baker Lobby, to do all special errands which are not included in the services above. A messenger will be dispatched as soon as possible to accomplish the errand, following a telephone request.

G. THE ADMINISTRATIVE ERRANDS — Delivering and collecting at all departments other than Nursing Stations will be performed as usual so that there will be no lapse in the interoffice mail service.

It is difficult to estimate exactly how many messengers we shall need for the Corps, but we shall increase our staff as soon as we recognize the need for more personnel. It is, of course, our aim to "cover" the hospital completely and to be able to perform all errands promptly and efficiently. We feel certain that we shall contribute a much needed service to the hospital. We shall welcome all constructive criticism and look forward to suggestions for ways to make the Service Corps increasingly useful.

EDWINA WOODMAN, *Supervisor*
Hospital Service Corps